

# **FISCAL NOTE**

## **HB 2291 - SB 2744**

February 11, 2004

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Authorizes the Department of Children's Services to request criminal background checks, including fingerprints, from any adult residing in a home where a child is placed with a foster parent under emergency circumstances. If any adult residing in the home fails to comply with this requirement, the Department shall remove the child immediately. The proposed foster parent will pay the fee for the criminal background check.

### **ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

#### **Decrease State Expenditures - Exceeds \$50,000**

According to the Department of Children's Services, it is the current practice to require these criminal background checks. Currently the Department of Children's Services pays for the criminal background checks for foster parents. Under the provisions of the bill, the foster parent would pay for the background check under circumstances of emergency placement. Currently, the Department of Children's Services does not have a category *emergency placement*; however, using the reasons for placement of abandonment, illness of a parent, death of a parent, and incarceration of a parent, approximately 900 cases may be affected.

### **CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James W. White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" written in a smaller, more compact script than the last name "White".

James W. White, Executive Director